

S-479
Ward-Hall House
Freemantown
Private

c. 1900-1910

Similar to several other two-story, two-bay frame houses in Freemantown, the Ward-Hall house, also known as the Cornelius Hall house, dates from the years surrounding the turn of the twentieth century. The two-story, side hall/parlor dwelling may have been erected around 1908 when William E. Ward and Frederick Ward purchased a 5/8 acre parcel of land for \$250. Over forty years later William E. and Theodosia Ward conveyed their interests in the property to Cornelius and Annie H. Hall. The house and lot remained under Hall family ownership until 1991. Due to the long-time ownership of the Wards and Halls, the hyphenated historic name honoring both families was selected.

HISTORIC CONTEXT INFORMATION

Resource Name: WARD-HALL HOUSE

MHT Inventory Number: S-479

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA:

- 1) Historic Period Theme(s): ARCHITECTURE
- 2) Geographic Orientation: EASTERN SHORE
- 3) Chronological/Development Period(s):
INDUSTRIAL/URBAN DOMINANCE
1870-1930
- 4) Resource Type(s):
Single-family dwelling

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. S-479

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic WARD-HALL HOUSE

and/or common CORNELIUS HALL HOUSE

2. Location

street & number Freedomtown Road ☐ not for publication

city, town Crisfield ☒ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Somerset

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: none

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Henry Lee and Famina Williams

street & number 3590 Freedomtown Road telephone no.:

city, town Crisfield state and zip code MD 21817

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Somerset County Clerk of Court liber 397

street & number Somerset County Courthouse folio 67

city, town Princess Anne state MD 21853

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

pository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. S-479

Condition

☐ excellent

☐ good

☒ fair

☐ deteriorated

☐ ruins

☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered

☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site

☐ moved

date of move

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Ward-Hall house stands on the southwest side of "Freedomtown" Road in the community of Freemantown, east of Crisfield, Somerset County, Maryland. The two-story, two-bay frame house faces north with the gable roof oriented on an east/west axis.

Built around 1890-1900, the two-story, two-bay side hall/parlor frame house is supported by a low brick pier foundation, and the exterior is clad with asbestos shingles over plain weatherboards. The medium pitched gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Extending to the rear (south) is a two-story, two-bay kitchen wing.

The north (main) facade is a two-bay elevation with a side entrance and a flanking two-over-two sash window. The front door is partially glazed. Marking the second floor are two evenly spaced two-over-two sash windows. The base to the roof is finished with a boxed cornice.

The east gable end is marked by a single two-over-two sash window on each floor, and a small two-over-two sash window pierces the upper gable. The eave is extended and the soffit is enclosed.

The west gable end features an interior end brick stove chimney that pierces the gable end. Two-over-two sash windows light the first and second floors.

The south (rear) elevation of the main block is largely covered by a two-story, two-bay kitchen wing. The east side of the kitchen is pierced by a center side entrance and flanking two-over-two sash windows. The second floor is marked by a pair of two-over-two sash windows. The medium sloped gable roof is not as high as the roof of the front block. Extending from the south end of the kitchen is a single-story addition.

The interior was not seen.

8. Significance

Survey No. S-479

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Similar to several other two-story, two-bay frame houses in Freemantown, the Ward-Hall house, also known as the Cornelius Hall house, dates from the years surrounding the turn of the twentieth century. The two-story, side hall/parlor dwelling may have been erected around 1908 when William E. Ward and Frederick Ward purchased a 5/8 acre parcel of land for \$250.(Somerset County Land Record, BLB 127/368) Over forty years later William E. and Theodosia Ward conveyed their interests in the property to Cornelius and Annie H. Hall.(Somerset County Land Record, 148/122) The house and lot remained under Hall family ownership until 1991.(Somerset County Land Record, 397/671) Due to the long-time ownership of the Wards and Halls, the hyphenated historic name honoring both families was selected.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. S-479

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian

organization Private Consultant

date 6/27/95

street & number P.O. Box 5

telephone 410-651-1094

city or town Westover

state Maryland 21871

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
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21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DROP/CHIEF
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2028
514-7600

S-479
WARD-HALL HOUSE
Freedomtown Road
Crisfield vicinity, Somerset County, Maryland
Chain of title

397/671 Katherine L. Hall
 John C. Hall

to

6/3/1991 Henry Lee Williams
 Famina Bowyer
 5/8 acre

148/122 William E. Ward
 Theodosia Ward

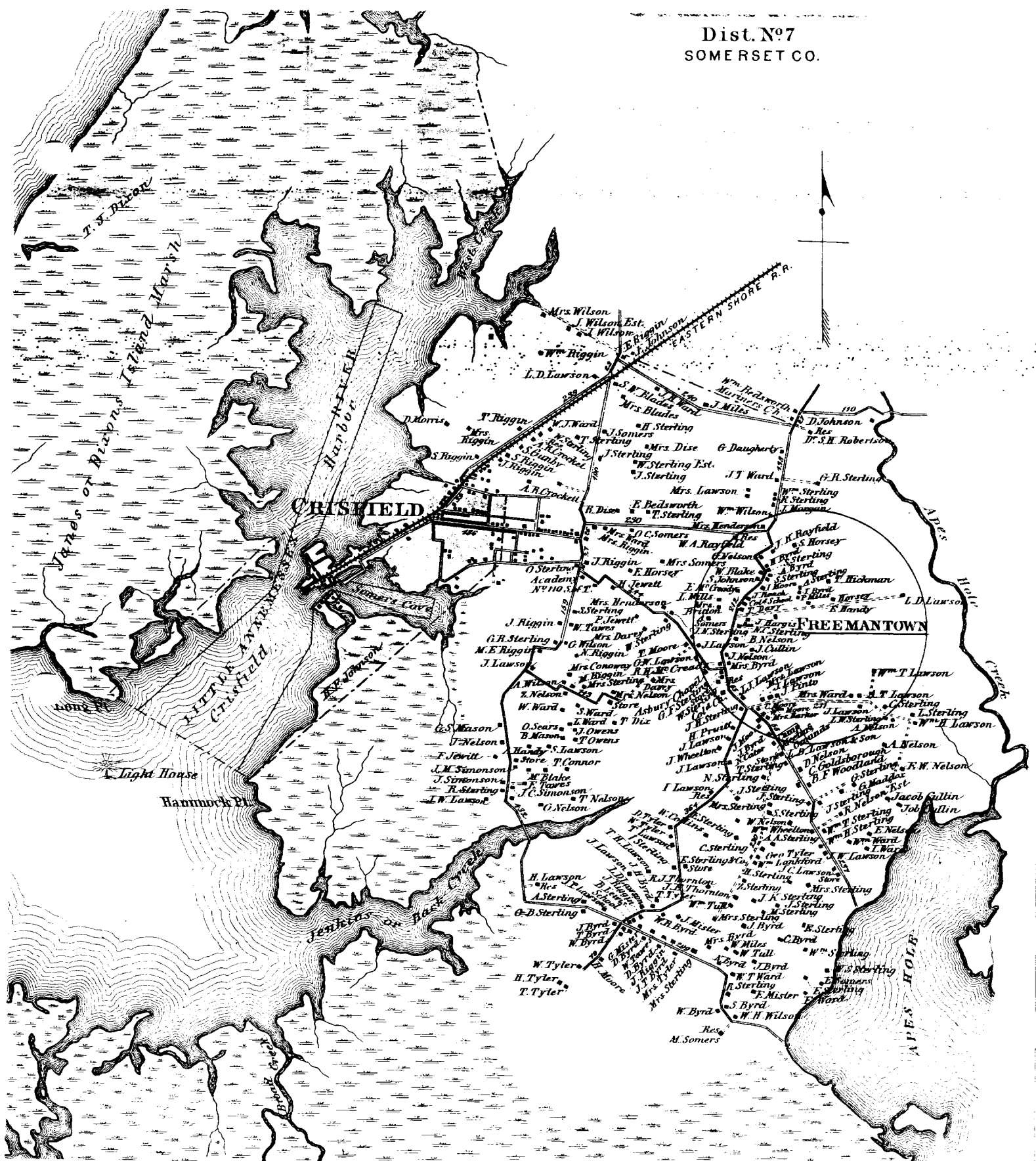
to

7/6/1949 Cornelius Hall
 Annie H. Hall

BLB 127/368 Samuel J. Blake
 Melissa E. Sterling

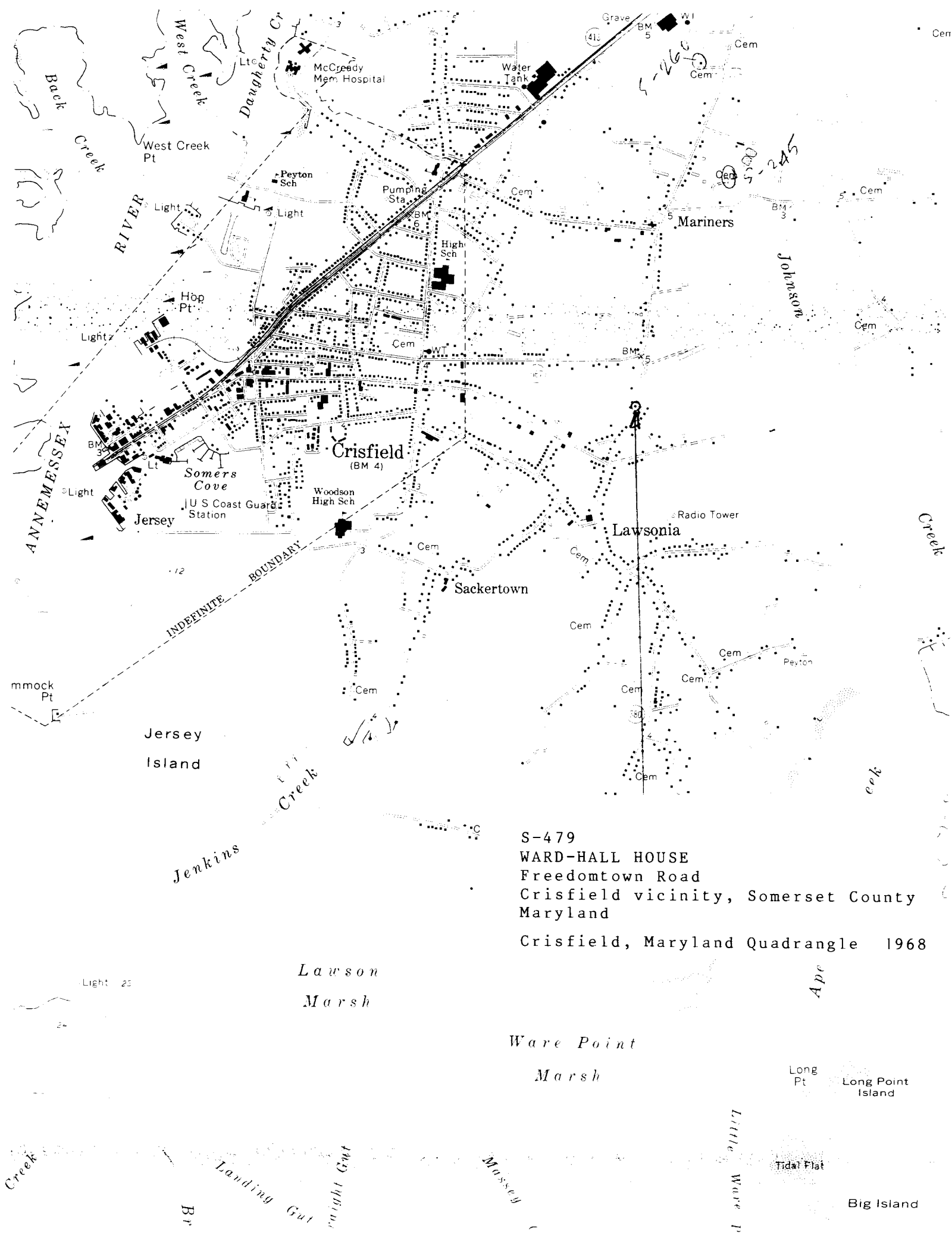
to

4/2/1908 William E. Ward
 Frederick Ward
 \$250.00 5/8 acre



S-479
WARD-TULL HOUSE
Crisfield vicinity, Somerset County
Maryland

Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson Atlas
1877



S-479
WARD-HALL HOUSE
Freedomtown Road
Crisfield vicinity, Somerset County
Maryland
Crisfield, Maryland Quadrangle 1968

Lawson
Marsh

Ware Point
Marsh

Long Pt
Long Point
Island

Tidal Flat

Big Island



S-479

WARD: HALL HOUSE

CRISPOLD VICINITY, SIMENSET C., MD.

NORTHEAST ELEVATION

6/95, Paul Towner, PHOTOGRAPHER

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